

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 4-10-51 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 4-9-51

WEATHER The week was colder than normal, with persistent fresh to occasionally strong northerly winds. There was much cloudiness and very little sunshine in the east, and hard freezing occurred on several nights in the west. Rainfall was moderate over most of the state, but was heavy locally in the southwest, and very light in the extreme north-central portion and the northern half of the Panhandle, and fell as steady rain, partly mixed with snow.

CROPS Farm field work was delayed further by more rain in eastern Nebraska. The much needed rain occurred in western Nebraska, with additional rain reported in the Panhandle today. Oat seeding has been delayed badly and it is too cold for pasture, alfalfa, grasses and wheat to grow.

Army cut worm is present in south-central and southwestern Nebraska in varying degrees of infestation. A few counties report some infestation in the southern Panhandle. Reports of Army cut worms came from twelve counties. Entomologists believe that the activity from cut worms will be over in a week or so.

Except for a few localities, there has been very little moisture in the western third of the wheat belt since last September. Last week's precipitation should improve the situation. Because of the dry, cold weather in the west, wheat had made very little growth. With few exceptions, wheat got a splendid root growth last autumn giving the plants more vitality and better able to survive the unfavorable dry condition and damage from cut worms, rust and green bugs. With present moisture and warmer weather, wheat should make rapid development if it is as good as it appeared to be the last days of March. The crop hasn't had a chance because of the dry, cold weather in western Nebraska. Winds and freezing weather were also detrimental. However, it is believe that wheat has sufficient vitality to overcome the damage from cut worms. However, some abandonment and some thin stands of wheat are apparent.

Reports for the week ending Saturday indicate that about 10% to 15% of the oats and barley have been planted in northwestern Nebraska. Central Nebraska, southwestern and south-central Nebraska report a third to a half of the spring grain planted. However, these districts have a very small acreage. The eastern third of the state grows most of the oats and has practically no oats planted. Comments from counties indicate that a considerable reduction from intentions may be expected and the land planted to other crops, most of it to corn. It is possible that the suggested increase in corn may yet be obtained if farmers reduce the oat acreage as present conditions indicate. Experimental records indicate that oats planted around April 20 may yield about 75% of the average.

Some loss of fall seeded alfalfa and grasses is expected. Alfalfa and pastures are late but with the present moisture supply they should come rapidly under more favorable temperatures. The farm labor supply is getting short and more labor will be needed if the shift from oats to corn materializes.

LIVESTOCK Lambing is nearly over and calving is well advanced. Many of the counties are reporting losses of pigs from disease. The weather of the past month has been unfavorable for farrowing. The surplus of hay will diminish if pasture growth is late as it now appears.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 9, 1951

<u>Eastern Division</u>		<u>Eastern Div., Cont'd.</u>		<u>Central Division</u>		<u>Western Division</u>	
Albion	.54	Hastings	.61	Broken Bow	.42	Alliance	.27
Ashland	.92	Lincoln	.81	Burwell	.53	Chadron	.01
Auburn	.50	Norfolk	.62	Cambridge	.82	Culbertson	.64
Beatrice	.89	Oakdale	.58	Holdrege	.48	Imperial	.42
Columbus	.87	Omaha	.74	North Loup	.44	Kimball	.31
Fairbury	.77	Red Cloud	.33	North Platte	.58	Scottsbluff	.14
Fairmont	.58	St. Paul	.85	O'Neill	.33	Sidney	.62
Falls City	1.13	Tekamah	1.16	Ravenna	.90		
Fremont	.93	Wakefield	.82	Valentine	.15		
Grand Island	.89	York	.86				
Hartington	.72						
Average this week		0.77		0.52		0.34	
Total since April 1		0.77		0.52		0.34	
Normal since April 1		0.51		0.42		0.39	

Precipitation map for month of March 1931

	Aver.	Dep.
East	2.63	+1.31
Central	.86	-.21
West	.31	-.69
State	1.31	+.17

Underscored
Reports
Unofficial

		APRIL													
		3rd		4th		5th		6th		7th		8th		9th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	55	19	64	37	64	40	58	37	49	21	46	12	53	15
	Scottsbluff	56	23	67	35	64	40	48	38	56	28	47	17	56	22
	Sidney	56	21	64	24	63	37	41	37	46	28	43	19	51	21
N-C	Burwell	51	21	62	24	62	39	44	40	57	30	42	30	49	30
	Valentine	51	21	57	26	59	34	52	37	46	25	42	25	49	22
NE	Norfolk	48	26	56	26	58	35	48	40	55	34	42	33	37	34
	Sioux City	48	26	54	27	57	32	55	41	53	32	46	32	38	35
CEN.	Grand Island	51	23	63	28	62	39	45	40	56	34	44	33	44	36
E-C	Lincoln	50	29	60	32	61	43	47	45	51	37	46	33	38	36
	Omaha	49	28	55	28	59	39	52	46	51	36	46	34	38	37
SW	North Platte	55	22	66	29	62	40	45	40	56	29	44	26	50	22

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